

Sierra Leone

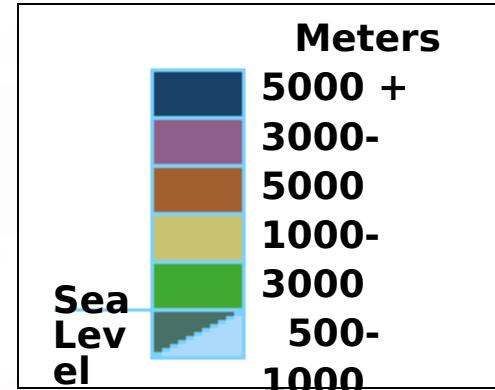


- Civil War
- One of the wettest countries in West Africa

Sierra Leone : Environmental Issues

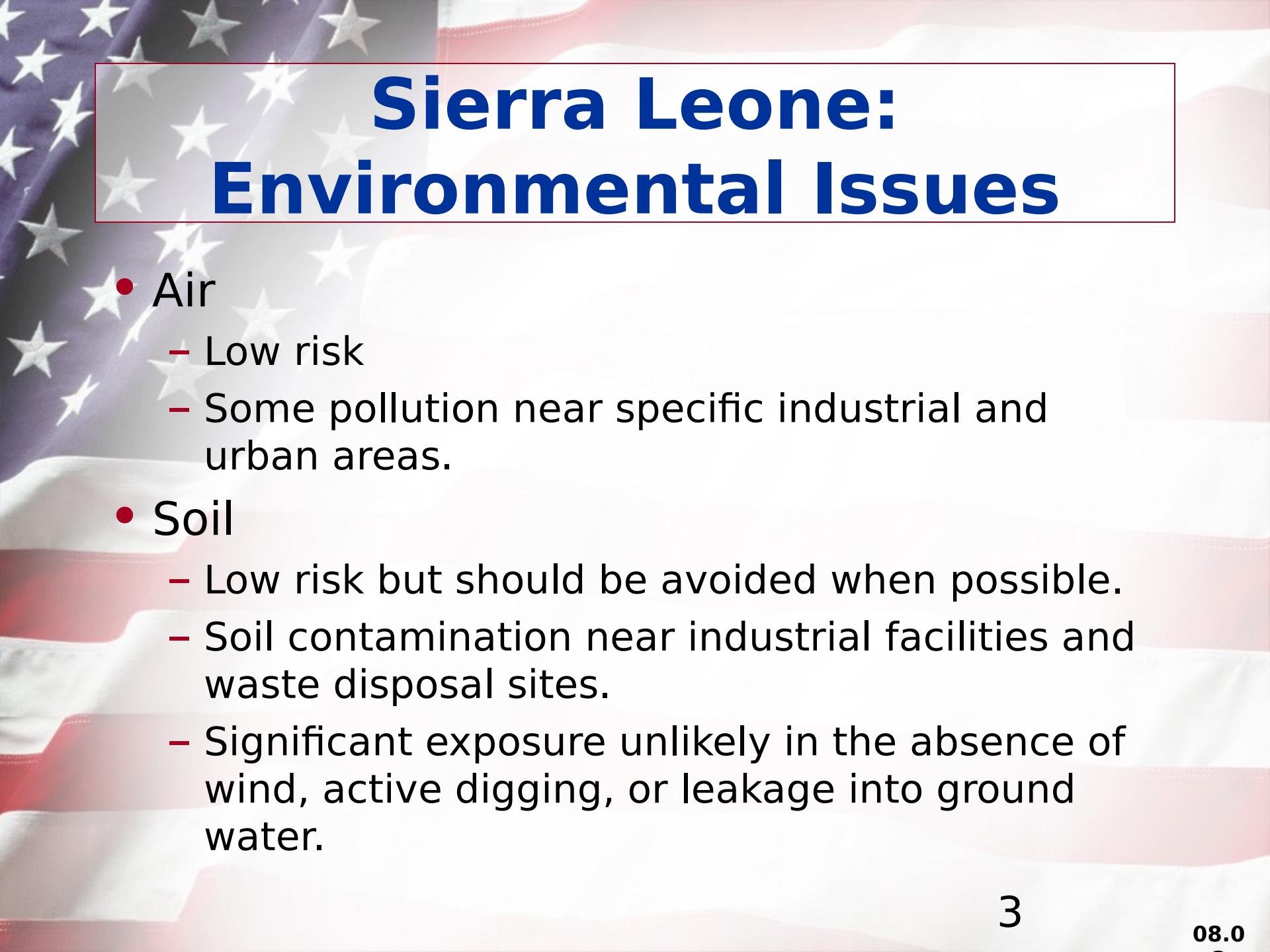
- Topography
- Climate

Climate
tropical; hot, humid; summer rainy season (May to December); winter dry season (December to April)



Terrain: coastal belt of mangroves, swamps, wooded hill country, upland plateau, mountains in east

Lowest point: Atlantic Ocean 0 m
Highest point: Loma Mansa (Bintimani) 1,948 m



Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Air
 - Low risk
 - Some pollution near specific industrial and urban areas.
- Soil
 - Low risk but should be avoided when possible.
 - Soil contamination near industrial facilities and waste disposal sites.
 - Significant exposure unlikely in the absence of wind, active digging, or leakage into ground water.

Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Food
 - Microbial and chemical contamination of local agricultural products.
 - Food may also be contaminated with industrial particulates, chemicals from soil, pesticides, fertilizers, and fecal pathogens.
- Water
 - Most water contaminated with raw sewage.
 - Other water sources may be contaminated with microbial and chemical contaminants.
 - Water sources near mining areas may be contaminated with arsenic and other chemical wastes.
 - Agriculture industry can cause water contamination with nitrates.

Sierra Leone: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
 - Water contaminated with raw sewage
 - Runoff containing fecal pathogens,
 - Environmental contamination
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks.
 - Environmental contamination.

Sierra Leone: Diseases of Operational Importance

- **Highest risk** country
- Diseases of greatest risk
 - Food and Waterborne Diseases: Bacterial diarrhea, Hepatitis A, Protozoal diarrhea and Typhoid/paratyphoid fever
 - Vector-borne Diseases: Malaria and Yellow fever.
 - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B.
 - Soil Contact Diseases: Lassa Fever
 - Water-contact Diseases: Schistosomiasis

Sierra Leone: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
 - Food and waterborne Diseases: Brucellosis, Cholera, Hepatitis E
 - Vector-borne Diseases: Boutonneuse fever (Mediterranean spotted fever), Chikungunya, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Dengue fever, Leishmaniasis, Rift Valley fever, Sindbis (Ockelbo) virus, Gambiense trypanosomiasis (African), Murine typhus (flea-borne) and West Nile fever
 - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Gonorrhea and Chlamydia.
 - Water-contact Diseases: Leptospirosis
 - Respiratory Diseases: Meningococcal meningitis and Tuberculosis
 - Animal-contact: Anthrax, Q-Fever and Rabies